

HCS SCS SB 973 -- MAINTENANCE MEDICATION

SPONSOR: Wasson

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Health Insurance by a vote of 8 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on Insurance by a vote of 11 to 0.

This bill allows a pharmacist to dispense varying quantities of maintenance medication per fill up to the total number of dosage units as authorized by the prescriber, unless the prescriber has specified that dispensing a prescription for maintenance medication in an initial amount is medically necessary. When the dispensing of the maintenance medication is based on refills then the pharmacist can dispense no more than a 90 day supply and the patient must have already been prescribed the medication for three months.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill will allow a pharmacist to dispense varying quantities of maintenance medication per fill up to the total number of dosage units as authorized by the prescriber. This will be good for patients.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Wasson; Missouri Grocers' Association; Missouri Retailers Association; and Walgreens, Inc.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.